

## Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, December 1, 1896, with transcript

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL TO MABEL (Hubbard) BELL Beinn Bhreagh, C. B.  
Tuesday, Dec. 1, 1896. My darling Mabel)

Mr. McCurdy — I suppose has forwarded to you — all correspondence and papers relating to Library and Reading-Room including a letter to you from Mr. Blanchard.

I came to the conclusion that the expense of sustaining the Reading-Room in first-rate style — could not be great — and so simply offered the Trustees the use of Gertrude Hall as a Reading-Room — you “to pay all the expenses connected with it.” This being accepted and the whole matter given into the hands of the managing Committee. I asked Mr. Blanchard on behalf of the Committee to submit to me an estimate of the probable expense from Dec. 1st, 1896 to June 1st, 1897. I enclose copy of his memorandum of contemplated expenses — and also a copy of Frank McKeen's tender for the position of Care-taker.

The whole Library will be removed to Gertrude Hall — This will necessitate some expenditure for book-shelves and etc., — fittings that — though of a permanent nature — will be removable.

Mr. Blanchard estimates the sum total as \$131.50 so I have told him to go ahead limiting your liability under any circumstances to \$150.00. Fifty dollars to be paid now — the rest — as required — after the 15th of January.

Hope this will be satisfactory to you.